CHAPTER 3

INTRODUCTION OF SHELF-LIFE ITEMS INTO THE SUPPLY SYSTEM

3-1. GENERAL

A. All items entering the supply systems undergo a preliminary evaluations to determine the need for the item as well as the method and degree of support the item will require throughout its supply chain (life cycle) . This evaluation may be part of a broad review required by the provisioning process; or it could consist of the review and introduction of a single item. If an item is deemed or known to be hazardous, such determination shall be made at this time, and a decision made by the Government whether to accept the item for support.

B. Defense Acquisition Deskbook and DoDD 5000.1, provide OSD guidance pertaining to acquisition policies and procedures.

C. Integrated Logistics Support (ILS)

1. Acquisition practices for ILS include Logistics Support Analysis (LSA) (MIL-sTD-1388-1), as part of the review process for items requiring provisioning support.

2. SLCS appear early in the life cycle review as part of the Logistics Support Analysis Record (LSAR) .

3. The LSAR process provides assurances that Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability factors have been considered and are documented. Documentation must provide descriptions of the maintenance/restorative actions that become necessary because of shelf-life considerations.

D. If provisioned materiel contains shelf–life items, codes and other supporting data (i.e., drawings, standards specifications), these must be included in contract requirements as deliverable items for any procurement actions.

E. Provisioning Technical Documentation (PTD) and Engineering Data for provisioning (MI L-STD-1388) are required to be provided by contractors to support provisioning conferences.

F. At the provisioning conference the Government selects support items and assigns technical and management codes.

G. Each DoD Component involved in the provisioning program which has authority to acquire data from contractors will develop and maintain an effective data management program.

1. To identify and justify the minimum data required for each item of materiel.

2. Provide controls for the procurement, preparation, acceptance, delivery, storage, retrieval, review, update, interchange, and distribution of all data throughout the supply chain (life cycle) of the materiel.

H. The following provisioning process phases will be used in the review and introduction of new shelf-life items into the supply system:

1. Mission-Need Justification. Each DoD Component sponsoring the introduction of a new item of supply will provide documented certification of a need for the item at all levels of the supply systems. As a minimum, DLA will be provided a statistical breakdown of usage data from all Military Services as part of this justification. An item having potential use as Prepositioned War Reserve (PWR), Other War Reserve (OWR), Maritime Prepositioned Ships (MPS), or Geographical Prepositioned Storage (GPS), will have to be identified early in this phase.

2. Concept Exploration/Definition Phase. This phase begins with the approval of a Mission Need Statement (MNS), which defines projected need in broad operational terms. Studies are conducted of alternative materiel concepts to identify the most promising potential solution.

3. Demonstrations and Validation. This phase requires the documentation of any potential environmental impact as well as the results from any testing and evaluation. Documentation will include statistical tolerances for such areas as storage facility te-mperature fluctuations, climate extremes, or special packaging requirements. Each of these factors contributes to the acceleration of the deterioration process.

4. Manufacturing Development . This requires a commitment of materiel and personnel resources to the production Of a specificitem, or group Of items, having shelf-life properties . During this phase, manufacturing methods and standards are developed, tested, refined, and eventually codified.

5. Production. This phase occurs after pre-manufacturing tasks are completed and scheduled production of shelf-life materiel is established. Defense Contract Management Districts (DCMD) must ensure that all manufacturers of shelf-life items assure that all steps of the production process are completed as soon as possible to guarantee the maximum remaining shelf-life at the time of shipment.

6. Operation and Support. This phase occurs after the initial procurement is complete and the system is sustained in the operational environment. During this time modifications are applied and configuration control is maintained.

3-2. REVIEW PRIOR TO ITEM ENTRY

A. Prior to the assignment of the SLC, those organizations involved in provisioning, system development, weapons systems development, and end item development shall:

1. Analyze the deteriorative qualities of the materiel.

2. Determine the shelf-life of the materiel.

3. Review contractor assigned shelf-life designations.

4. Identify and use replacement and/or substitute items which do not require shelf-life management.

5. Identify and use replacement and/or substitute items which have a longer shelf-life period than the previously recommended shelf-life period.

6. Identify and use replacement and/or substitute non-hazardous or less hazardous items.

7. Consider use of smaller units of issue especially for hazardous shelf-life items.

8. Consider use of improved packaging to prolong shelf-life, especially for hazardous shelf-life items. Al 1 modifications for hazardous items will meet the requirements of Code of Federal Regulations Title 49 (CFR Title 49).

9. Determine inspection, test and restoration actions that are required for extendible (Type II) shelf-life items.

10. Document the above evaluations in order to assist the ICP in the preparation of the storage standards for extendible (Type II) shelf-life items and to address future audits.

11. Ensure replacement and/or substitute items do not affect health, safety, welfare or mission capability.

12. Assign appropriate SLCS.

B. Failure to assign an SLC to an item may result in the deterioration of materiel in storage while in the user's possession. Adverse safety and health situations could be the ultimate outcome (e.g., deteriorated drugs, food, chemicals, adhesives or other spare parts) .